

March 13, 2020

Dear Member of the General Assembly,

The Georgia General Assembly will suspend the 2020 legislative session indefinitely beginning today, Friday, March 13, the end of the 29th Legislative Day. This suspension is out of an abundance of caution and in the interest of the health and safety of members, staff and the public given the measures that need to be taken regarding the coronavirus.

House Resolution 1473 was adopted by both the House of Representatives and the Senate on March 12, 2020. The resolution provides

"that whenever, due to an emergency or disaster, resulting from manmade or natural causes or enemy attack, it becomes imprudent, inexpedient, or impossible to conduct the affairs of the General Assemblythe Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate may, by joint agreement, order the discontinuation of the schedule for meetings provided by this resolution and provide for reconvening the House and the Senate at the State Capitol in Atlanta, Fulton County, on such date and at such time as they deem practical."

As provided for in the resolution we will give prompt notice when we have jointly reached a determination as to when it is prudent for the General Assembly to reconvene. Following such reconvening, the General Assembly may provide by joint resolution for a new schedule for meetings and adjournments.

The adoption of this resolution by the General Assembly shall constitute the consent of both the House of Representatives and the Senate for purposes of Article III, Section IV, Paragraph I(b) of the Constitution.

"(b) Neither house shall adjourn during a regular session for more than three days or meet in any place other than the state capitol without the consent of the other." We continue to urge calm and appropriate responses to the coronavirus situation. We are working diligently to ensure that, at the appropriate time, the General Assembly resumes its critically important work.

We do not take this action lightly, but after discussions with Governor Kemp, we feel this is a prudent measure which will ensure an orderly legislative session. We stand ready to support the state's response to the coronavirus. We look forward to resuming the legislative session and returning to the people's business.

David Ralston

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Geoff Duncan Lieutenant Governor